

The Security and Defence of Europe

The Council of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party, convening in Helsinki, Finland on 27-28 June 2025:

Notes with concern:

- The increasingly dangerous challenges posed to the rules based international order by authoritarian actors such as Russia and China, and the spread of disinformation.

Recognises:

- That Russia is the main threat to the peace and security of Europe and its liberal democracies, and that authoritarian regimes such as North Korea, whose soldiers are fighting alongside Russian forces on European soil, as well as Iran and China, who are supplying weapons used in Europe, also pose a clear, direct, and tangible threat to the Union's security.
- That NATO is central to the defence of Europe and Article 5 is the cornerstone of our collective security.

Calls on:

- Europe to come together to define a clear defence and security strategy – including establishing “a coalition of the willing” – a military alliance not solely focused on inter-state war and conflict, but also on increasing cooperation between EU and non-EU countries to counter terrorism, cross-border policing, intelligence sharing, humanitarian assistance and hybrid warfare.
- Europe to strengthen partnerships with non-European allies.
- The territorial integrity of European countries to be respected by all.
- The EU to negotiate with non- EU countries access to the European Defence Agency, to prioritise interoperability and coordination with allies - developing new defence technologies, equipment systems and training.
- The EU and non-EU countries to progressively switch procurement to European suppliers of military equipment and to consider options for more sovereign capability development.
- Europe to establish a “rearmament bank” with membership open to EU and non-EU countries, designed to help finance an increase in Europe's defence capabilities.
- Europe to explore the possibility of establishing a common European nuclear umbrella.